

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 915

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION to commend Representative Craig Fitzhugh for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a member of the House of Representatives.

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body should honor those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts during their time in office have been dedicated to providing thoughtful and exemplary service to their districts and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Craig Fitzhugh of Ripley is one such distinguished public servant who has served both his constituency and this legislative body with honor and ability; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Representative Fitzhugh has been a highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of Lauderdale, Crockett, Haywood, and Hardeman counties, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, Craig Fitzhugh has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the good people of the 82nd House District, whom he has served as a member of the 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, and 110th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, throughout his service, Craig Fitzhugh has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, as an active and dynamic participant in the legislative process during his time in the General Assembly, Representative Fitzhugh has rendered sterling service as a

former chair and member of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee and the House Budget Subcommittee and as a member of the House Commerce Committee, the House Calendar and Rules Committee, the House Government Operations Committee, the House Education Administration and Planning Committee, the House Delayed Bills Committee, the House Rules Committee, the House Insurance and Banking Committee, the House State and Local Committee, the House Children and Family Affairs Committee, the House Finance, Ways and Means Subcommittee, and the House Utilities and Banking Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, he has also served with acumen and alacrity as a member of the Joint Committee on Pensions and Insurance, the Joint Fiscal Review Committee, the Joint Select Committee on Corrections Oversight, the Joint Workers' Compensation Committee, the Joint Government Operations Committee, the Joint Government Operations Education, Health and General Welfare Subcommittee, and the Joint Government Operations Judiciary and Government Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, Representative Craig Fitzhugh served as Democratic Leader of the 107th, 108th, 109th, and 110th General Assemblies and Assistant Majority Whip of the 99th General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Representative Fitzhugh is an Eagle Scout and a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fitzhugh is a family man, businessman, and community leader, and he has proven that citizens can make a difference by being involved in community service and leading by example; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished banker and attorney born in Brownsville and raised in Ripley, Craig Fitzhugh obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Banking and Finance from the University of Tennessee in 1972 and received his Juris Doctorate in 1975 from the University of Tennessee College of Law; and

WHEREAS, proud to serve in the United States Armed Forces, Representative Fitzhugh holds the rank of Major in the United States Air Force Reserve, having previously served four years of active duty in the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps as a Captain; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fitzhugh's public service career includes tenures as a member of the Tennessee Board of Professional Responsibility under the Tennessee Supreme Court, the Launch TN Board of Directors, and the Dyersburg State Community College Foundation Board; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of leadership and citizenship, he donates his time and energies to a number of civic, community, and charitable organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, Ducks Unlimited, the West Tennessee Area Council of Boy Scouts, the Ripley Downtown Development Corporation, and the Exchange Club; and

WHEREAS, he is a past chairman of the Tennessee Bankers Association and a member of the Union University Board of Trustees, the University of Tennessee Alumni Association, and the Tennessee Bar Association in addition to being the voice of the Ripley Football Tigers; and

WHEREAS, throughout his outstanding career as a public servant, Representative Craig Fitzhugh has worked tirelessly on behalf of his constituents, bringing to his office an honorable bearing and the traditional values of hard work and common sense; and

WHEREAS, his many civic and professional accomplishments aside, Craig Fitzhugh is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife of forty-four years, Pam, who also attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and is a retired consultant for deaf children with the Lauderdale County school system; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fitzhugh enjoys the loving support of his daughter and her husband, Elizabeth and Chaz Molder; his son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Windy Fitzhugh; and his treasured grandchildren, Marley, Hugh, Bebe, and Oliver; and

WHEREAS, Representative Craig Fitzhugh is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized for his exemplary tenure in this body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Craig Fitzhugh for his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the House of Representatives, commend him for his countless

contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of the 82nd House District, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.